Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: Listing of claims:

Claims 1-29 (cancelled)

- 30. (New) A peptide having bifidogenic properties and selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) R_1 -EVAARARVVW- R_2 (SEQ ID NO: 8),
 - b) R -ARRARVVWAAVG-R2 (SEQ ID NO: 22),
 - c) R₁-ARRARVVWCAVG-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 14), and R₂-CIAL-R₄ (SEQ ID NO: 15)
 - d) R₁-ARRARVVWCAVGE-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 16), | | R₃-CIAL-R₄ (SEQ ID NO: 15)

wherein

- R_1 , R_3 independently represent H or a peptide containing up to 100 animo acids; and R_2 , R_4 independently represent OH, NH₂, or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids;
- d) amidated, acetylated, sulfated, phosphorylated, glycosylated, and oxidized derivatives and fragments, thereof, having bifidogenic properties; and
- e) peptides obtainable by the combination of the peptides, fragments, and derivatives by chemical bonding.
- 31. (New) A peptide according to claim 30 selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 22.

- 32. (New) A medicament containing at least one peptide according to claim 30.
- 33. (New) A medicament containing at least one peptide according to claim 31.
- 34. (New) Use of peptides according to claim 30 for preparing a medicament for the treatment of diseases caused by misplaced microbial colonizations, for example, by tracteria, fungi, yeasts, protists, viruses, mycoplasmas, filariae, plasmodiums, such as infections, inflammations, microbially induced tumors, microbially6 caused degenerative diseases, diarrheic diseases, colics, deviations in the oral, intestinal and vaginal fibras, caries.
- 35. (New) Use of nucleic acids coding for the peptides mentioned in claim 31 for preparing medicament for the treatment of diseases caused by misplaced microbial colonizations, for example, by bacteria, fungi, yeasts, protists, viruses, mycoplasmas, filariae, plasmodiums, such as infections, inflammations, microbially induced tumors, microbially caused degenerative diseases, diarrheic diseases, colics, deviations in the oral, intestinal, and vaginal floras, caries.
- 36. (New) A peptide having bifidogenic properties and selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 14 and SEQ ID NO: 16.
- 37. (New) A medicament containing at least one peptide according to claim 36.
- 38. (New) Use of peptides according to claim 36 for preparing a medicament for the treatment of diseases caused by misplaced microbial colonizations, for example, by bacteria, fungi, yeasts, protists, viruses, mycoplasmas, filariae, plasmodiums, such as infections,

inflammations, microbially induced tumors, microbially6 caused degener ative diseases, diarrheic diseases, colics, deviations in the oral, intestinal and vaginal floras, caries.

- 39. (New) Use of nucleic acids coding for the peptides mentioned in claim 36 for preparing a medicament for the treatment of diseases caused by misplaced microbial colonizations, for example, by bacteria, fungi, yeasts, protists, viruses, mycoplasmas, filariae, plasmodiums, such as infections, inflammations, microbially induced tumors, microbially caused degenerative diseases, diarrheic diseases, colics, deviations in the oral, intestinal, and vaginal floras, caries.\
- 40. (New) A peptide having bifidogenic properties and
 - a) amino acid sequence

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R<sub>1</sub>-EQLLRLKK-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 1), R<sub>1</sub>-YLEQLLRLKKY-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 2),
R<sub>1</sub>-NRQRNILR-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 3), R<sub>1</sub>-YMNGMNRQRNILR-R (SEQ II) NO: 4),
R<sub>1</sub>-FQWQRNMRK-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 5), R<sub>1</sub>-HTGLRRTA-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 6),
R<sub>1</sub>-FTAIQNLRK-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 7), R<sub>1</sub>-EVAARARVVW-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 8),
R<sub>1</sub>-WQRNMRKV-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 9), R<sub>1</sub>-LARTLKRLK-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 10),
R<sub>1</sub>-YKQKVEKV-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 11), R<sub>1</sub>-LVRYTKKV-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 12),
R<sub>1</sub>-KYLYEIARR-R<sub>2</sub> (SEQ ID NO: 13), R<sub>1</sub>-ARRARVVWCAVG-R<sub>2</sub> (SEC ID NO: 14),
R<sub>2</sub>-CIAL-R<sub>4</sub> (SEC ID NO: 15)
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 R_1 -ARRARVVWCAVGE- R_2 (SEQ ID NO: 16), R_3 -CIAL- R_4 (SEQ ID NO: 15)

R₁-GRRRRSVQWCŤVSQPEATKCFQWQRNMRŘVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQCIQA-R₁
(SEQ ID NO: 18),

R₁-GRRRSVQWCAVSQPEATKCFQWQRNMRKVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQCIQA-R₂

(SEQ ID NO: 19),

R₁-GRRRRSVQWCAVSQPEATKCFQWQRNMRKVRGPPVSCIKRDSPIQ CIQA-R

(SEQ ID NO: 20),

R₁-VYQHQKAMPKPWIQPKTKVIPYVRYL-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 21),

R₁-ARRARVVWAAVG-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 22),

R₁-CAVGGGCIAL-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 23), or

R₁-RHTRKYWCRQGARGGCITL-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 24),

wherein

 R_1 , R_3 independently represents NH_2 , an amino acid, or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids, and

R₂, R₄ independently represents COOH, CONH₂, an amino acid, or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids;

b) amino acid sequence

 R_1 -YQRRPAIAINNPYVPRTYYANPAVVRPHAQIPQRQYLPNSHPPTVVRRPNLHPSF- R_2 (SEQ ID NO: 17),

wherein

 $R_1,\,R_3$ independently represents H or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids excluding amino acid sequence 1-62 of human κ -casein, and

R₂, R₄ independently represents OH, NH₂, or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids excluding amino acid sequence 1-62 of human κ-casein; or

- c) the peptide N-modified by amidation, acetylation, sulfation, phosphorylation, glycosylation, or oxidation having bifidogenic properties.
- 41. (New) A peptide having bifidogenic properties and amino acid sequence
 - a) (SEQ ID NO: 8),
 - b) (SEQ ID NO: 14),
 - c) (SEQ ID NO: 22), or
 - d) R₁-ARRARVVWCAVG-R₂ (SEQ ID NO: 14), and R₂-CIAL-R₄ (SEQ ID NO: 15)

wherein

- R_1 , R_2 independently represent H or a peptide containing up to 100 amino acids; and R_2 , R_4 independently represent OH, NH_2 , or a peptide containing u_1 to 100 amino acids;
- e) or the amidated, acetylated, sulfated, phosphorylated, glycosylated, oxidized derivatives or fragments, thereof, having bifidogenic properties.
- 42. (New) A method of using the peptide of claim 40, comprising orally administering an effective amount of the peptide to an individual to selectively promote growth of bifidobacteria, or selectively inhibit the growth of non-bifidobacteria, in the digestive tract.
- 43. (New) A method of using the peptide of claim 41, comprising orally administering an effective amount of the peptide to an individual to selectively promote growth of bifidobacteria, or selectively inhibit the growth of non-bifidobacteria, in the digestive tract.

- 44. (New) A composition for human administration comprising the peptide of claim 40 in combination with a physiologically acceptable excipient in a galenic formulation.
- 45. (New) A composition for human administration comprising the peptide of claim 41 in combination with a physiologically acceptable excipient in a galenic formulation.